


Delaware-Based Competitions and Grants

May, 2021

Workforce Training Grant

	Grant Amount Matches grants that fund specialized training for companies up to \$100,000 per project		Application Open Open Now (Apply Here)	Host Organization Delaware Division of Small Business	Links: Homepage
Workforce Training Grants are offered by the Delaware Division of Small Business to attract and retain quality jobs in the state of Delaware. They are also offered to create opportunities for advancement for Delaware employees.	Eligibility Applicants must demonstrate a need for the training, which should be related to new and innovative processes or programs, machinery, or tech-related upgrades.	Focus Workforce Training	Grants Awarded Grants are awarded after 45 days; once funding is exhausted no further applications will be accepted	Contact: Wilmington Area Joe Zilcosky Non-Wilmington Area of New Castle County David Mathe Kent County and Sussex County Laura Wisler https://business.delaware.gov/contact/	

Flock Local


	Sponsorship Amount \$15,000		Application Open Open Now (Apply Here)	Host Organization Delaware Sports Properties and Delaware Division of Small Business	Links: Homepage
Delaware Sports Properties and Delaware Division of Small Business have partnered to award three local businesses with a customizable sponsorship package that will utilize the power and reach of the University of Delaware Blue Hen brand. This sponsorship will last from August 2021 to May 2022 and is free of cost to the winning businesses.	Eligibility Open to all	Focus Small Business	Applications Close 5/30/2021 Sponsorships Awarded Three sponsorships will be awarded on or around the application close date	Contact: Michael Chesney Director of Communications, DDSB Michael.Chesney@Delaware.gov	

Wilmington Strong Fund


WILMINGTON STRONG FUND <small>Citywide Emergency Small Business Relief Fund</small>	Grant Amount \$1,000		Application Open Open Now (Apply Here)	Host Organization Cornerstone West CDC	Links: Homepage
<p>The Wilmington Strong Fund is a citywide emergency small business relief fund that offers grants to small businesses located in the City of Wilmington to cover expenses such as rent payments, mortgage payments, utility and supplier bills, and digital marketing costs.</p>	Eligibility Applicants must be operating in the City of Wilmington and must be a for-profit small business. Corporations, franchises, and nonprofits are not eligible.	Focus Small Business	Applications Close 6/8/2021 Grants Awarded Grants are awarded 2-3 weeks after submissions	Contact: Gabrielle Lantieri glantieri@westsidegrows.org	

Community Grants and Funding


Comcast RISE Program

	Program Rewards Advertising and Marketing Consultations TV Media Schedule Creative Production Tech Makeover Monetary Grant		Application Open Open Now (Apply Here)	Host Organization Comcast	Links: Homepage
	Eligibility BIPOC-owned businesses	Focus Any Industry	Applications Close 5/7/2021	Program Awards Recipients chosen quarterly	
Comcast is providing services and upgrades to BIPOC-owned small businesses in need that have suffered through the pandemic.		Contact: General Contact 844-963-0234			


Nav Small Business Grant

	Grant Amount \$10,000 First Place \$5,000 Second Place		Application Open Open in April (Apply Here)	Host Organization Nav	Links: Homepage
	Eligibility Must sign up for a free Nav membership and explain why you deserve the money	Focus Small Business	Applications Close 5/31/2021	Grants Awarded Quarterly	
A unique grant that is awarded quarterly through a social media voting process where the small business's customers can vote for their favorite small business. A large part of the application is a social media post, and they encourage creativity to win! Be on the lookout for the application to open so you can get started on the voting process right away!		Contact: General Contact grants@nav.com			


Shuttered Venue Operators Grant

	Grant Amount Equal to 45% of venue's 2019 gross earned revenue or \$10M, whichever is less		Application Open Open Now	Host Organization SBA	Links: Homepage
A grant for shuttered live entertainment venues that have been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. Certain entities such as live venue promoters, theaters, museums, zoos, and more may be eligible to apply for grants.	Eligibility Live venue operators and promoters, theatrical producers, motion picture theater operators, and more as listed on the homepage	Focus Performing Arts	Applications Close Rolling submissions until funds are exhausted Grants Awarded Dependent upon revenue loss (More revenue loss will receive grants first)	Contact: General Contact SVOGrant@sba.gov	


Amber Grant for Women

	Grant Amount \$4,000 winner once a month \$1,000 for runner-up \$25,000 once a year		Application Open First day of each month (Apply Here)	Host Organization WomensNet	Links: Homepage
A grant for women with businesses awarded in honor of Amber Wigdahl, who tragically passed away at the age of 19 before she was able to realize her business dreams.	Eligibility Must be a woman 18 years or older with a business	Focus Any Industry	Application Close Last day of each month Grants Awarded One winner each month	Contact: General Contact info@womensnet.net	


Jane Walker First Women Grant Program

	Grant Amount \$10,000		Application Open Open Now (Apply Here)	Host Organization Jane Walker and IFundWomen	Links: Homepage
The Jane Walker First Women Grant, by Jane Walker and IFundWomen, is for women-owned businesses who have broken through in culture and paved the way for more women to succeed.	Eligibility Women-owned business with at least \$25,000 in revenue	Focus Any Industry	Applications Close Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis through June Program Awards 30 Grants will be awarded in total	Contact: General Contact https://ifundwomen.com/contact	


Bell Labs Prize

	Cash Prizes \$175,000 (\$100,000 to winner)		Application Open Open Now (Apply Here)	Location Virtual	Links: Homepage
A competition run by Nokia Bell Labs that awards individuals and small businesses that find solutions to some of the greatest challenges facing the information and telecommunications industry.	Eligibility Must be 21 or older, own your ideas, and possess a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree	Focus Information and Telecommunications	Application Close 5/14/2021 Final Rounds 6/30/2021	Contact: General Contact BL.Prize@nokia.com	


NASE Growth Grants

	Grant Amount \$4,000		Application Open Always Open to Members	Host Organization NASE	Links: Homepage Membership
A grant for small business owners that are members of the National Association for the Self-Employed to finance business needs.	Eligibility Must be a member of NASE for at least 3 months prior to applying	Focus Small Business	Applications Close N/A Grants Awarded Number given varies, grants awarded quarterly	Contact: NASE Grants Administrator grants_scholarships@nase.org	

Development Innovation Ventures (DIV)

	Grant Amount Stage 1: Pilot (up to \$200K) Stage 2: Test and Position for Scale (up to \$1.5M) Stage 3: Transition to Scale (up to \$5M) Evidence Grants: (up to \$1.5M)		Application Open Always Open (Apply Here) Grants Awarded 10-20 awarded per year (1-2% of applicants)	Host Organization USAID	Links: Homepage
Multiple stages of grants for innovators and researchers to test new ideas and solutions that can change the world and help improve people's lives.	Eligibility Determine if you are eligible using the DIV Questionnaire	Focus Any Industry		Contact: General Contact div@usaid.gov	

CodeLaunch Atlanta

	Cash Prizes \$30,000+		Application Open Open Now (Apply Here)	Location Atlanta, GA	Links: Homepage
CodeLaunch provides seed services that are invaluable to early-stage startups. This competition is for tech and software companies and rewards winners with cash prizes and in-kind rewards.	Eligibility All tech companies dependent on software development, no age requirement	Focus Software Development	Application Close 6/17/2021 Final Rounds 8/18/2021	Contact: General Contact ideas@codelaunch.com	

SBIR/STTR Funding Opportunities

National Science Foundation (NSF)

<p>The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs are competitive programs that encourage small businesses to engage in federal research and development projects with the potential for commercialization. Each agency offers a list of broad research topics, and you may find that your business already takes part in one or more of the topics offered. If so, you may be eligible to apply for a grant. Below is a list of topics currently being considered for SBIR grant awards by the NSF.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced Analytics • Advanced Manufacturing • Advanced Materials • Artificial Intelligence • Augmented/Virtual Reality • Biological Technologies • Chemical Technologies • Cloud and High-Performance Technologies • Cybersecurity and Authentication • Digital Health • Distributed Ledger • Energy Technologies • Environmental Technologies • Human-Computer Interaction • Instrumentation and Hardware Systems • Internet of Things 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning and Cognition Technologies • Medical Devices • Mobility • Nanotechnology • Other Topics • Pharmaceutical Technology • Photonics • Power Management • Quantum Information Technologies • Robotics • Semiconductors • Space • Wireless Technologies 	<p>Grant amounts for each topic range from \$5,000 to \$256,000 depending on scale of project and SBIR Phase. Contact NSF for more details on specific amounts for each topic.</p>
		<p>If any of these topics interest you, refer to this document to find the contact that is associated with your topic of interest</p>
		<p>Applications Open Now Applications Close: 6/3/2021</p>
		<p>Apply here if your business is already involved with one of these topics.</p>
		<p>To view more subtopics of these individual topics, view the original NSF posting on the SBIR website.</p>

SBIR/STTR Funding Opportunities

Department of Defense (DoD)

Below is a list of topics currently being offered by the DoD for Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) grant opportunities.

- Broadband Counter-Electronics Weapon for Long-Range Non-Lethal Vehicle/Vessel Stopping Capabilities
- Fast Low Loss Uninterrupted Optical Switch
- Multimode-Coupled High-Frequency Photoreceiver
- Multispectral Target and Scene Projector
- Technology for Transmitting and Receiving Airborne, High-Speed, Wideband, Covert Communications
- Zero Foreign Object Damage (FOD): Inlet Debris Monitoring System (IDMS)

Grant amounts for each topic can award **up to \$240,000** for Phase I and **up to \$1,700,000** for Phase II projects depending on their scale. Contact DoD for more details on specific amounts for each topic.

Read more about specific topics available [here](#).

Applications Open Now
Applications Close: 6/17/2021

[Apply here](#) if your business is already involved with one of these topics.

For more information about the DoD SBIR topics and opportunities email the DoD SBIR/STTR Support Help Desk at DoDSBIRSupport@reisystems.com.

SBIR/STTR Funding Opportunities

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

Below is a list of topics currently being offered by the HHS for Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) grant opportunities.


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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biomarker Research to Support Fertility Regulation Development by Small Business • Detection, Diagnosis, Treatment, Prevention, and Research of Pediatric Cancers and/or Rare Cancers • HEAL Initiative: America’s Startups and Small Businesses Build Technologies to Stop the Opioid Crisis • Innovative Technologies for HIV Behavioral and Social Science Research • Novel Tools for Investigating Brain-derived GPCRs in Mental Health Research • Technologies to Advance Precision Medicine for Reproductive Health and Infertility | Grant amounts for each topic for up to \$150,000 in Phase I and up to \$1,000,000 for Phase II depending on scale of project. Contact HHS for more details on specific amounts for each topic. |
| | To view all the the HHS listings directly on the SBIR website, click here . |
| | Applications Open Now
Applications Close: 9/5/2021 |
| | Apply here if your business is already involved with one of these topics. |
| | For general information about these grants, contact GrantsInfo@nih.gov |

Federal Funding Opportunities (General)

	<p>This is a website where government agencies post grant opportunities. Use the search tool to find grants that can be used for your small business.</p>	Grants
	<p>This is a database that allows you to search for all kinds of grants, and even allows you to sign up for weekly grant alerts so you never miss opportunities to receive funding.</p>	Grants
	<p>GrantWatch is a database that takes government and foundation grants and puts them into user-friendly summaries. They make it easy to search for grants that apply to your small business.</p>	Grants
	<p>The Minority Business Development Agency is devoted to helping minority-owned businesses grow in size and scale. They do this through workshops, initiatives, and grants that can all be found on their website.</p>	Visit Website
	<p>This site is used by the federal government to post prize competitions and challenges. These are used to get ideas directly from the public such as software, technologies, and other solutions that your business may already be developing. Check to see if you can win funding from any challenges.</p>	Challenges

University-Sponsored Competitions

Collegiate Inventors Competition

 Collegiate Inventors Competition®	Cash Prizes Up to \$15,000 for 3 Winners		Application Open Open Now (Apply Here)	Location Virtual	Links: Homepage Past Winners
An essay-based competition for startups to explain their business and how they believe their product will benefit certain aspects of society. This competition is STEM-focused, and the awards are based off the applications. Patented products are not eligible.	Eligibility Full-time students enrolled in a U.S. college or university	Focus STEM	Application Close 6/7/2021 Final Rounds To Be Announced	Contact: General Contact collegiate@invent.org	

University Startup World Cup

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UNIVERSITY STARTUP WORLD CUP	Cash Prizes \$15,000+		Application Open Open Now (Apply Here)	Location Virtual and Wenzhou, China	Links: Homepage
The University Startup World Cup is an international event sponsored by Venture Cup Denmark to reward students from all over the world for their ideas and global impact. The event allows participants to network with international businesses, pitch their business, and win cash prizes.	Eligibility Must have two co-founders and at least one of them must be affiliated with a University	Focus Any Industry	Application Close 6/13/2021 Final Rounds 10/2021	Contact: Suzana Barbosa Creative Specialist, Project Manager, USWC suba@venturecup.dk	